App. F. IX-4

Previous References. (1940-1 War) War File No. 230-40.
Serial Nos. 1 & 2

Later References.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. Two only.

Part B for August 1942.

SUBJECT.

Policy in regard to Rifle Clubs

M Krishnan
20.8.42

Policy to be adopted in regard to Rifle Clubs.
Exception in the case of Clubs organised for Civic Guards.

General and Revenue Secretariat

W File No. 230 of 1940-1 [App. F. III–2

Serial No.

The Home Dept circular of 10th Feby. 40 refers to a Resolution of the Home Ministers Conference and it is stated that it has not been possible to expand the E.T.C., as recommended by the Conference, for the reasons mentioned in the circular. States do not seem to have been represented at the Conference and as such it is not known as to what the Resolution is.

It is seen from the circular of 10th June 41 that the Govt of India have decided that an exception might be made in the case of clubs organised for Civic Guards.
A copy of the enclosure to the Resy endorsement with be sent to the IGP for information

A

RS 6/8

A. may be done

For perusal

QPR/8

Chief Secy

Law minister

HMS 6/8/41

9-8-41

HMS 11/8/41

Sent with a draft cir for the IGP

RS 11/8

for QPR 11/8

2 Issued 529/W of 11th Aug. 41 to the IGP.

CHIEF SECRETARY 6. AUG. 1941 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

O. of the MINISTER FOR LAW AUG 8 1941 No. 134

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

W 230-40-1 Pol 256 404/W

CONFIDENTIAL

THE OFFICE OF THE HON'BLE THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE,
Dated Bangalore, the 5th August 1941.

No.F. 69-41/W.

A copy of the undermentioned papers is forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore, for information.

By order, etc.,

for SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT.

CHIEF SECRETARY. 6 AUG. 1941 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

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1. Circular letter from the Government of India in the Home Department to all Provincial Governments, No.21/49/38-Police, dated the 10th February 1940.

2. Circular from the Government of India in the Home Department to all Provincial Governments, No.174/40/40-Police, dated the 10th June 1941, with enclosure.

VN

Copy of a circular letter No.21/49/38-Police, dated the 10th February 1940 from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department to the Chief Secretaries to all Provincial Governments.

Policy to be adopted in regard to rifle clubs.

I am directed to invite a reference to the Resolution of the Home Ministers' Conference held in Simla in May 1939 and to the Home Department letter No.21/49/38-Police, dated the 25th October, 1939, on the subject mentioned above, and to say that owing to a shortage of officers, of competent instructors, and of arms and equipment, due to the war, it has not been possible to expand the University Training Corps as recommended by the Conference. The suggestion made in paragraph (2) of the Resolution has, however, been met by the considerable expansion of the Indian Territorial Force which has already taken place. In the circumstances the Government of India consider that in future the policy to be adopted in regard to rifle clubs should be as indicated in paragraph (3) of the Resolution, i.e. fresh licences should not be granted to rifle clubs outside recognised forces such as the University Training Corps and the Urban and Provincial Battalions in which there is provision for efficient supervision by military officers.

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Copy of a circular letter No.174/40/40-Police, dated the 10th June 1941 from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department to the Chief Secretaries to all Provincial Governments.

Policy to be adopted in regard to rifle clubs.

I am directed to invite a reference to Home Department letter No.21/49/38-Police, dated the 10th February 1940, on the subject noted above, in which it was stated that fresh licences should not be granted to Rifle Clubs outside certain recognised forces in which there was provision for efficient supervision by Military Officers. Civic Guards do not fall within that category. The Bombay Government, however, believing that they did, issued a circular, of which I am to enclose a copy, authorising District authorities to organize miniature rifle clubs for Civic Guards where there was a demand for such clubs. The Government of the Central Provinces and Berar expressed a desire to follow suit.

2. The Government of India have given the matter further consideration and decided that an exception to the policy explained in the above quoted letter might suitably be made in the case of clubs organized for Civic Guards, on the ground that they would furnish recreational facilities of value and serve indirectly to stimulate recruitment.

3. Provincial Government are, therefore, authorized to sanction the grant of licences for miniature rifle clubs confined to Civic Guards, subject to the condition that only .22 bore rifles of other than high velocity types shall be used and to such other conditions, if any, as the Provincial Governments may deem fit to impose.

Civic Guards
Facilities for miniature rifle target practice.

Government of Bombay.
Home Department.
Circular No.3513/4-XVI.
Bombay Castle, 17th October 1940.

Circular

Government desires to give Civic Guards facilities for miniature rifle shooting as a recreation.

As has been made clear in several Government announcements Civic Guards are an unarmed force and there is no intention of giving them any training in the use of fire-arms. However, it is believed that many of those who have joined the Civic Guards are already familiar with fire-arms and would appreciate the provision of facilities for target practice and competitive shooting on a miniature range.

Accordingly District Magistrates are authorised, when any demand exists, to organise, in consultation with the District Superintendent of Police, Miniature Rifle Shooting Clubs for the Civic Guards in their Districts and to apply to Government for sanction to issue a licence in Form XV.

2. Government consider that one rifle for every 12 members of the club and 50 rounds of ammunition per head per month would be a suitable provision.

The rifles to be used should be .22 bore low velocity. Their present price in Bombay is about Rs.50/- per rifle and the price of ammunition is about Rs.40/- per thousand rounds. Government will agree to provide half the cost of the rifles and ammunition on this scale and District Magistrates may be able to find generous persons who will help to meet the rest of the cost, so that little expense will fall on the members of the Civic Guards who form the Club.

In some Districts it may be possible to obtain suitable rifles on loan.

3. The District Superintendent of Police should be requested to make the Police miniature range, if any, available for the use of the club, when suitable and convenient arrangements for such use can be made or a special range could be constructed at small cost in consultation with the District Superintendent of Police who should certify that the range is safe for use. Generous supporters of the Civic Guards movement might be asked to help in this connection also.

4. The District Superintendent of Police should be requested to advise the Commandant of the Civic Guards in regard to the rules to be drawn up for the conduct of firing on the range and the observance of range discipline.

5. The licence should be granted in the name of the President or Secretary of the Club and should be subject to the condition that the rifle and ammunition are kept in the custody of the Police when not in use and are used only on the Club's Range.

6. In applying for sanction to issue a licence District Magistrates should suggest any additions of alterations that they may consider necessary.

By order of the Governor of Bombay,

Sd. J.M.Sladen,

Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Home Department.

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W 230-40-2

11th August 1941.

The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

I am directed to enclose herein for your information a copy of the undermentioned papers regarding the policy to be adopted in regard to rifle clubs, received from the Residency.

1. Circular letter from the Government of India in the Home Department to all Provincial Governments, No.21/49/38-Police, dated the 10th February 1940.

2. Circular from the Government of India in the Home Department to all Provincial Governments, No.174/40/40-Police, dated the 10th June 1941, with enclosure.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

For Chief Secretary to Government.